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BEFORE THE  
UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

U.S. Patent Application: 10/687,543  
Filing Date: Oct 16, 2003  
Title: Optical Fiber Array Assembly, etc.

ATTY Docket: FG - 21

Hon. Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

ART UNIT: 2839

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

SIR:

This communication is in response to the Office Action dated May 25, 2004.

**REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME TO REPLY AND PAYMENT OF FEES:**

Applicant requests an extension of time to reply to the outstanding Office Action. All small entity amounts due related to these amendments of claims and to the reply extension of time should be charged to the undersigned attorney's deposit account #14-1649.

**PENDING CLAIMS AND AMENDMENTS:**

Claims 1 – 23 are pending herein. Claim 24 is canceled. A claim listing is attached hereto and filed herewith. Entrance is requested of the amendments therein. The amendments are made without prejudice and to more particularly point out and distinctly claim Applicant's invention. Applicant, by amending claims herein, expressly does not